

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98 submitted herewith for consideration by the Examiner are the patents, publications and other information shown on the attached PTO-1449.

The citation of these references is not intended to constitute an admission that any reference referred to herein is prior art to the invention of this application unless specifically designated as such.

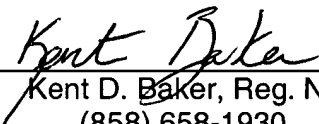
The filing of this document shall not be construed to mean that any search has been made or, that if made, such search was complete or exhaustive, or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56 exists.

A list of the references cited herein is set forth on Form PTO-1449 which is enclosed herewith in duplicate along with a copy of each cited reference. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner return to Applicants the enclosed copy of the Form PTO-1449 indicating consideration of the references.

☒ The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 03/13/2002

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